

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR to

CORPORAL DONALD L. TRUESDALE, U.S.M.C.

Name changed officially to TRUESDELL on 7-25-42  
for service in Nicaragua as set forth in the following:

Citation:

"For extraordinary heroism in the line of his profession above and beyond the call of duty at the risk of his life, as second in command of a Guardia Nacional patrol on 24 April, 1932, engaged, at the time, in active operations in the field against armed bandit forces operating in the vicinity of Constancia, near the Coco River, Department of Jinotega, Northern Nicaragua. While the patrol was in formation on the trail searching for a bandit group, with which contact had just previously been had, a rifle grenade fell from its carrier, carried by a member of the patrol, and struck a rock, igniting the detonator. Several men of the patrol were in close proximity of the grenade at the time. Corporal Truesdale, who was several yards away at the time, could easily have sought cover and safety for himself but instead, knowing full well the grenade would explode within two or three seconds, and with utter disregard for his own personal safety, and at the risk of his own life, rushed for the grenade, grasped it in his right hand and attempted to throw it away from the patrol before it exploded. The grenade exploded in his hand, blowing it off and inflicting serious multiple wounds about his body. Corporal Truesdale, by his actions, took the full shock of the explosion of the grenade upon himself, thereby saving the lives of, or serious injury to, his comrades in arms. His actions were worthy of the highest traditions of the profession of arms."

For the President.

Secretary of the Navy.